

Green Businesses in Sunnyvale

Environmental Values at Work



The Akraya team says they are "living and working the green dream"



An office supplies reuse center is set up so staff can "shop" for used items



Reusable dishware is provided for use in the staff kitchen

Akraya, Inc.

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Amar Panchal, the CEO of Akraya, Inc., decided to expand his personal sustainability commitment to the work place after discovering a Santa Clara County Green Business pamphlet in an auto store. Among other things, Panchal lead the software and IT management company's green efforts through a company sponsored Green Earth, Green Akraya campaign. The campaign asks employees to take simple steps like conserving natural resources, being more conscious about reducing waste, and reusing and recycling in order to reduce their impact on the environment. "These efforts have led to significant bottom line savings in energy and product purchasing costs", asserts Panchal.

Some of the initiatives the company has implemented are:

- Purchasing crockery, metal utensils, glass cups and mugs to replace disposables
- Partnering with Spare the Air to encourage carpooling, bicycling, public transit, walking or telecommuting
- On-boarding new employees through a Green Employee Orientation program
- Maintaining a Green Stationery corner for office supply reuse
- Using minimum 30% (usually higher) recycled content office supplies
- Planning delivery/pick up routes to reduce fuel consumption and air pollution
- Recognizing and rewarding employees for green efforts each quarter with \$100 gift certificates and paid leave
- Developing a green purchasing policy
- Convincing the landscaper to grasscycle, although Akraya is but one tenant in a large office complex

Akraya was recently recognized as a Climate Hero of Silicon Valley by Acterra, a non-profit environmental organization, and Sunnyvale's Mayor Spitaleri presented them with a Certificate of Recognition. Akraya employees believe that the "Akryan family" will leave a legacy of environmental preservation toward a "healthy, safe planet for their children."

For more information on the green efforts of Akraya, please contact Eszter Szikora.